GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2758
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2003
SEIZURE OF WILD LIFE
AKHILESH SINGH;M. JAGANNATH

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of recent recovery of elephant tusks by Wild Life Department from a farm house in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken under the Wild Life Act against the offenders;

(d) whether there is any proposal to bring legislation to make the existing provisions of Wild Life Act more stringent and effective; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI DILIP SINGH JU DEV)

(a),(b)&(c) Yes, Sir. The Wildlife Department of Delhi has seized two complete tusks kept as trophies in a farm house at Jonapur, New Delhi on 9.1.2003. The case has been booked under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

(d) & (e) The Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972 has been amended recently to provide for enhanced penalties in respect of offences relating to wildlife. An offence relating to poaching of elephants and illegal trade in ivory items shall now be punishable with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than three years but may extend to seven years and also with fine which shall not be less than ten thousand rupees. The amended Act also provides for forfeiture of any such property as has been acquired out of income derived from illegal hunting and trade of wildlife.